

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 074011
ORIGIN SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: TERRORISM INVOLVING U.S. BUSINESS INTERESTS

1. WILLIAM FULTON, SECURITY COORDINATOR, AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY, INFORMED SY/FO OF A LETTER FROM THEIR B.A. PLANT MANAGER, KUNO H. WITTLINGER, WHO WROTE THAT ELEMENTS OF THE ARGENTINE ARMY HAD CONDUCTED A RAID ON A HOME IN THE FLORENCIA VERALA AREA OF B.A. ON MARCH 11. DURING THE CONFRONTATION, ONE UNIDENTIFIED MAN WAS KILLED AND A WOMAN, IDENTIFIED ONLY AS A SECRETARY IN AN UN-NAMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION ESCAPED.
2. DURING A SEARCH OF THE PREMISES, THE MILITARY REPORTEDLY FOUND PLANS FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY AND THE ABBOTT CHEMICAL COMPANY. THE SCOPE OF THE PLANS WERE UNKNOWN BUT WITTLINGER INDICATED THAT THEY WERE TO BEGIN ON MARCH 11, THE DAY OF THE RAID.

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3. WITTLINGER'S LETTER ALSO INDICATED THAT A PLANT INVENTORY DISCLOSED SOME 20 TONS OF A CAUSTIC AND ANOTHER CHEMICAL (NAOH) HAD DISAPPEARED. HE, AT THE TIME, WAS UNCERTAIN IF THE CHEMICALS HAD ACTUALLY DISAPPEARED THROUGH THEFT OR WHETHER THE DISCREPANCY WAS DUE TO CLERICAL ERROR. AN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY.

4. FULTON SAID THAT THEIR EXECUTIVES HAVE TAKEN THE PRECAUTIONS OF VARYING THEIR HOURS AND CHANGING CARS BUT HE WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT IF THE ARMY, IN FACT, DID DISCOVER PLANS FOR HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST THEIR PLANTS OR PERSONNEL. HE REMARKED THAT THE B.A. PLANT HAD RECENTLY DISCHARGED SOME 40 PEOPLE AND THAT NEARLY 20 MORE WOULD BE DISCHARGED.

5. PLEASE ATTEMPT TO CONFIRM THE INFORMATION AS GIVEN ABOVE AND, IF POSSIBLE, OBTAIN COPIES OF THE PURPORTED TERRORIST PLANS. FULTON PASSED THIS INFORMATION TO JOHN SCHWARTZ, CORPORATE SECURITY OFFICE, ABBOTT LABS, WHO HAS ALSO ASKED TO BE ADVISED IF ANY PLANS AGAINST ABBOTT ARE DISCLOSED. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
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Review Release Date: n/a
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